

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**“SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY” AVAILABLE FROM FIRST 5 SHASTA
FALL FUNDING ROUND OPENS**

REDDING (August 25, 2004)-----First 5 Shasta, the Shasta Children and Families First Commission, announces the availability of its fall round of competitive funding. “Special Opportunity” funding is now open to interested organizations, community groups and providers in Shasta County. “Special Opportunity Funding” allows First 5 Shasta to offer support for one-time project funding. To be considered for funding, projects must serve children, pre-natal-to-five years of age, and their families *and* be related to the vision, mission, goals and objectives of First 5 Shasta

A total of \$40,000 is available for award in Fall 2004. Funding requests in amounts from \$5,000 to \$20,000 will be considered. Funding requests from Family Child Care Providers in amounts from \$1,500 to \$20,000 will be considered as well. Interested parties are invited to discuss project ideas with First 5 Shasta’s Executive Director.

To obtain more information about Special Opportunity Funding, visit the First 5 Shasta web site at www.First5Shasta.org or call 530-229-8300.

First 5 Shasta, the Shasta Children and Families First Commission, was established after voters passed Proposition 10 in November 1998, adding a 50 cent-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, child care and other programs to promote early childhood development for expectant parents and children up to age five. To date, First 5 Shasta has invested nearly \$8 million in local projects and programs that benefit young children and families.

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